

and demonstrated true dedication by serving on the Board of Directors of the Brooklyn Children's Museum, the Brooklyn Red Cross, and the Queens Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, as well as acting as Brooklyn's representative on the Board of Directors of the New York City Public Development Corporation. He was also active as a member of the Brooklyn Area Council of Boy Scouts of America and the New York State Bar Association's Committee on Minorities in the Profession.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments and selfless service of Mr. Simpson as he continues to offer his talents and philanthropic services for the betterment of the community.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Charles E. Simpson has continuously demonstrated his altruistic dedication to the community that makes him more than worthy of our recognition today.

IN MEMORY OF MR. FRANK
LICHTANSKI

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a great public servant for Monterey County, California. Frank J. Lichtanski passed away on June 9, 2005 in his home in Del Rey Oaks, California after a battle with cancer.

Frank was passionate about all modes of transportation, and particularly buses, for more than 31 years. At age 23, he worked as a bus driver for Monterey-Salinas Transit, beginning what would become an illustrious career. After six years, Frank became general manager, and in 1982 he became Monterey-Salinas Transit's Chief Executive Officer. In his 31 years of service with MST, Frank turned a fledgling bus service with only nine buses and twenty employees into a thriving public transit system. Today, Monterey-Salinas Transit provides public transit service in Monterey, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties and carries 4.8 million passengers each year. Each time Frank came to Washington, D.C., he marveled at the Metro system and how Union Station had developed as a commercial center with transportation as the anchor for restaurants and entertainment. He took that inspiration and figured out how a public transit station could benefit Monterey County. The City of Marina is the northern gateway to the Monterey Peninsula. Frank's vision grew to become the Marina Transit Station, situated at the west end of a major corridor between the coastal communities and the inland communities of Monterey County. The Marina Transit Station is a multimodal connection serving transit and over-the-road buses, as well as automobile passengers, taxis, and bicyclists. It will serve as the anchor for economic development in a part of the county that had lost its commercial businesses when the former Fort Ord military base closed.

He was a regional leader in implementing Intelligent Transportation Systems that include visual tracking of buses through enhanced communication systems, automated voice announcements to ensure compliance with ADA,

and visual displays at transit centers to provide passengers with real time bus arrivals and departures. Frank understood that technology improvements alone would not improve ridership and championed the purchase of new fuel efficient buses. Always a creative problem solver, Frank fought for and won FTA approval to leverage the purchase of three buses into a financing package of 46 new buses to respond to 10 percent annual growth in ridership.

Frank amassed a collection of train and bus schedules dating back to the early 1900s, and I am talking to officials at the Smithsonian Institution about the possibility of a display of Frank's memorabilia. Being passionate about all modes of transportation, Frank personally traveled to 34 countries and inspected more than 180 transit systems, always searching for ideas to improve public transit on the Central Coast.

The residents of Del Ray Oaks, Monterey County and the Central Coast mourn the passing of Frank Lichtanski and join me in expressing our heartfelt condolences to Frank's wife, Pam; his daughter, Aaron; and sisters Jeannie Stopa and Fran Stauff, and to the MST family to whom Frank devoted his stellar career.

HONORING SIR FERNANDO MUY

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2005

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues in the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus to honor the contributions and achievements of Sir Fernando Muy on his recent passing. Sir Muy was an entrepreneur, friend, community volunteer, husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather. Sir Muy made an impact to each person he came in contact with and left them with compassion, patience, and generosity.

I had the honor of meeting Sir Muy at a community gathering at the On Leong Chinese Community Center last July. I learned that he was a kind and caring man who took interest in helping others. He was a man who pushed for the rights of Chinese both in the U.S. and internationally.

The title "Sir" was bestowed upon Fernando Muy by the 25th Knight of the Imperial Byzantine Order of the Star of Asia, by H.I.R.H. Prince Henri Constantine III the current leader of Byzantine Dynasty of the Eastern Roman Empire. His title was placed upon him for his outstanding accomplishments in making great contributions to the public charity, culture, and his promotion of world peace. Other such winners of this award include President Harry Truman and John Glenn.

Since he had been oppressed by two Communist regimes in China and in Cuba, Sir Muy was a staunch opponent of Communism. With a sound financial foundation behind him, the retired entrepreneur decided to become active in the community. Sir Muy's contributions and tireless advocacy work helped make it possible for Chinese immigrants to have the rights they have today. He advocated and encouraged all immigrants to become citizens, to register to vote so as to exercise their duty and power as citizens.

Sir Muy worked tirelessly to reduce the tension between China and Taiwan by traveling to both countries to encourage on-going dialogue between the two sides. In Miami, his place of residence, he continued his personal commitment to the community by establishing the following organizations in Miami: Chinese Welfare Council in 1978, World Kwong Tung Community Association in 1991, Florida Chinese Federation in 1993 and Overseas Chinese Association in 2000. He also helped with the creation of the following: Chinese American Benevolent Association in 1956, Organization of Chinese Americans—South Florida Chapter in 1987, and United Chinese Association of Florida in 2003.

Sir Muy accepted the position of the National President of Overseas Chinese Association in 2000. He wanted to revitalize an inactive ten-year-old organization with only one chapter in the country of Macao. In order to make an international impact, he decided to stay in Taiwan. The mission of OCA is to unite all overseas Chinese worldwide, to promote harmony by using Founding Father Dr. Sun Yat-San's "Three People's Principles"; preserve the Chinese heritage, and encourage members to actively participate in local civil affairs for equality, and advancement of Chinese.

Sir Fernando Muy will be remembered as a great philanthropist, a successful entrepreneur, a caring father and grandfather. Most of all, he will be remembered for his philanthropy and chivalry's spirit of justice, his commitment to advocate for the welfare and advancement of Chinese worldwide, and the promotion of the Chinese culture.

TRIBUTE TO GENERAL DONALD G.
COOK

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2005

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to honor General Donald Cook, United States Air Force, for his 36 years of dedicated service.

During the past 36 years, General Cook has served in the Air Force with honor and distinction. He's a command pilot with over 3,300 hours. The general has commanded a flying training wing, two space wings, and the 20th Air Force—a real tribute to his leadership capabilities.

General Cook has been the commander of Air Education and Training Command since December 9th, 2001. This command includes the Air Force Recruiting Service, two numbered air forces, Air University and consists of 15 wings, more than 66,000 active-duty members and 15,000 civilians. As commander of the Air Force University, General Cook was responsible for recruiting, training and educating Airmen to sustain the combat capability of the Air Force.

On a personal note, I have known General Cook and his wife Diane for a number of years. They and their family members are outstanding Americans who have dedicated a great deal of time and energy to public service. General Cook worked in my office for a year, working with me to formulate legislation on professional military education. Through